

TWO NOTES ON GG

Nick says in the second paragraph of *GG* that he "came back from the East last autumn." But at the beginning of the last chapter he says, "After two years I remember the rest of that day [the day of G's death] . . ." The first reference gives the time of writing the book as somewhere within about 12 months of G's death, and the second as after 2 years. Is the discrepancy a careless error, or did F want the reader to believe that Nick has actually employed at least a year in the composition of the book and thus add to the illusion of Nick as the one who really is doing the writing?

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According to Daisy, Pammy Buchanan is 3 years old (p. 10—N.Y., 1953)—and certainly she could scarcely be younger and speak as she does: "I got dressed before luncheon," and "Aunt Jordan's got on a white dress too" (p. 117). Since the novel's action takes place in the summer of 1922, Pammy was born during or before the summer of 1919. But Daisy did not even meet Tom until the "middle of spring," 1919 (p. 151) while G was at Oxford after the Armistice (Nov., 1918). They were married, Daisy says, "in the middle of June," 1919 (p. 128). These dates, of course, do not prove that Pammy is illegitimate. She is F's mistake, not Tom and Daisy's.

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BELOVED INFIDEL

Though praised beyond its merit by the reviewers, (Charles Poore wished it a million readers), BI is manna for us. Sheilah Graham provides more information about F's last years than is available anywhere else. The letters and poems are exciting distillations of his personality. But she cheats us: there should be more of this primary material and less chit-chat.

BI might have been a rather trashy memoir had it not been elevated by the quality of Miss Graham's admiration for F. Let there be no mistake—this is no attempt to cash in on F. It is a sincere effort to present a portrait of the gallant, haunted man she sincerely loved.

Ultimately, the real problem lies in trying to assess how much of this is the work of Boswell Frank. Pity that Miss Graham didn't try it solo.

NEW F BIOGRAPHY

Andrew Turnbull—19 Peacock Farm Rd., Lexington 73, Mass.—is preparing a biog of F. Anyone possessing letters or other material is urged to communicate with Mr. Turnbull. The project demands the cooperation of all F buffs.

NEWS BRIEFS

Before its demise \$64,000 Query had a category on F . . . Charles Jackson's adaptation of "Absolution" was presented on TV in Oct. as part of a series on the priesthood . . . Princeton has acquired 7 F letters to Holger Lundbergh . . . THE DISENCHANTED was a success on the road, and the odds favor a hit on B'way. The out-of-town reviewers were enchanted with the staging and with both Robards performances.

CHECKLIST

Anon., "The Roaring '20s Roar On," NEWSWEEK, LII, 21 (Nov. 24), cover, 31-34.

Aldridge, J. W., "The Life of Gatsby," 12 ORIGINAL ESSAYS ON GREAT AM. NOVELS, ed. C. Shapiro (Wayne Univ. Press, 1958), 210-237.

Durham, P., "Fitzgeraldin Kuihtunest Liliat," AIKAMME, No. 4-5 (April, 1956), 30.

Harrison, J. M., "Babylon Revisited," EXPLICATOR, XVI, 4 (Jan., 1958),

20. "The central conflict is not between Charlie past and Charlie present, but between contradictory impulses operating within the latter."

Leslie, S., "Some Memories of F," TLS, Oct. 31, 632.

Nathan, G. J., "The Golden Boy of the '20s," ESQUIRE, L, 4 (Oct. 1958), 148-149.

Schoenwald, R. L., F AS JOHN KEATS, Publications in the Humanities #28 (MIT, 1958).

Solomon, E., "A Source for GG," MLN, LXXIII (March, 1958), 186-188.
Dreiser's "Vanity, Vanity," Saith the Preacher."

Turnbull, A. W., F AT LA PAIX, Pub. in Hum. #22 (MIT, 1956).

White, W. "Nathanael West: A Bibliography," SB, XI (1958), 207-224—
lists letters to and from F.

New Editions—AOAA (Bodley) & THE BODLEY HEAD F, Vol. I. J. B.

Priestly, editor—includes LT, GG, CU. Reviewed: TLS (Oct. 17), 592—
calls for "less nonsense about F as a 'spoiled priest'"; V. S. Pritchett,
NEW STATESMAN (Oct. 11), 494-495; J. Roselli, MANCH GUARDIAN (Oct. 23).

Letters—"Advice to a Young Writer," 3 letters with intro by A. Turnbull,
ESQUIRE (Oct. 1958), 158-159.

Reprint—"How to Waste Material," GRIFFIN, VII, 8 (Summer, 1958),
13-17.

Thesis—Staley, T., "F's 5 Heroes: A Study in Projection," U of Tulsa,
1958: "Each hero manifests a certain segment from F's life... The
heroes show the universal struggle of men crushed by the failure of their
ideals. All of these characters are similar in that they are fundamentally
men without roots who are unable to find a place in the world."

SOME FOREIGN EDITIONS

BABYLON REVISITED & WINTER DREAMS (Kenkyusha, Tokyo, ND)—
an English-language text for students.

MODERN AM. SHORT STORIES (Kenkyusha, Tokyo, ND)—includes
"The Rich Boy."

DEN STORE GATSBY (Thaning & Appel, Copenhagen, 1948).

EN MAN UTAN SKRUPLER (Wahlstrom & Widstrand, Stockholm, 1928)
—GG.

UDENFOR SAESONEN (Andersen, Copenhagen, ND)—includes "The
Rich Boy."

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